Sericulture activity in Andhra Pradesh

745. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether silk-industry employs about 6 million people who are engaged in various sericulture activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether women constitute over 60 per cent of those employed in down-stream activities like mulberry garden management, leaf harvesting and silkworm rearing;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what welfare measures Government has taken for such persons engaged in silk industry during the last five years, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The employment generation from sericulture activities during the year 2008-09 was 6.31 million persons (estimated). The State-wise details of the employment in silk sector including Andhra Pradesh is as under:

Sl. No.	Name of State	Men	Women	Total (in Lakh Persons)
1.	Karnataka	5.70	7.86	13.56
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3.41	4.80	8.21
3.	Tamil Nadu	1.91	2.76	4.67
4.	West Bengal	2.09	2.88	4.97
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.98	2.19	3.17
6.	Other	10.99	17.53	28.52
	TOTAL	25.08	38.02	63.10

(Source : State Department of Sericulture)

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. It is estimated that 60% of those employed in the pre-cocoon activities such as mulberry cultivation, leaf harvesting, silkworm rearing and cocoon harvesting in the country during the year 2008-09 are women employees. The percentage of women employees in pre-cocoon activities in Andhra Pradesh is 58.27.

The table below indicates the gender wise employment under pre-cocoon sector in different State during 2008-09:

Unit : Lakh Nos.

Sl.No.	States	Men	Women	Total
1.	Karnataka	4.19	5.59	9.78
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2.47	3.45	5.92
3.	Tamil Nadu	1.35	1.99	3.34
4.	West Bengal	1.51	2.08	3.59
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.71	1.57	2.28
6.	Other	7.95	12.59	20.54
	TOTAL	18.18	27.27	45.45

(Source : State Department of Sericulture)

(e) The following are the welfare measures taken by the Government for the benefit of women in the silk industry:

(i) **Training to women Sericulturists**: The Research Institutes of the Central Silk Board provide training to women sericulturists to enhance their skill and competency in sericulture. The Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute of CSB at Mysore has organised exclusive training programmes for women under a Department of Bio-Technology (DBT) sponsored programme. The Institute has also taken-up a project to study and develop women friendly technologies to reduce the drudgery. These benefits are being provided in most sericulture States.

(ii) **Catalytic Development Programme**: The Catalytic Development Programme a Centrally Sponsored Programme of the Government of India implemented by the Central Silk Board in collaboration with the State Government provides support to all stake holders of silk industry including women. During Eleventh Plan it is targeted to cover women beneficiaries as per the following details, under this CDP programme.

Sector	Coverage of beneficiaries Women
Mulberry	30%
Tasar	30%
Eri	60%
Muga	30%

(iii) **Health Insurance for Women Workers**: The Scheme aims at financially enabling the women workers in the silk industry to access the best of health facilities in the country. The scheme is being implemented through ICICI Lombard. The scheme involves a premium of Rs.767.28 per year per person, which provides a health coverage to the tune of Rs.15,000 per year. The benefit of the scheme is applicable to the Women workers and their family (1+3). The cost of the premium is shared between Central Silk Board, State and beneficiaries in the ratio of 75:15:10. A provision of Rs.2.26 crores has been made to cover 31,000 women beneficiaries under the scheme during Eleventh Plan.

Due to the overwhelming popularity of the scheme, 47.620 women beneficiaries were covered in 10 states with the CSB's share of Rs.3.02 crores during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10. Out of these, 4760 women beneficiaries were covered in Andhra Pradesh State with the CSB's share of Rs.29.9 lakh during this period. Further, it is proposed to cover another 94,220 women beneficiaries during the current year (2009-10) taking up the total number to 1,41,840 beneficiaries.

In addition to the above, the insurance schemes are being implemented as a social security measure of the benefit the stake holders of silk industry covering both men and women -

- Insurance coverage for silkworm crop
- Insurance coverage for rearing house.
- Insurance coverage for Rearing, Reeling and Weaving equipments
- Personal accident coverage for the beneficiary and their family

As regards, insurance Scheme implemented, state-wise beneficiaries covered are given below:

State	Component	2008-09		2009-10	
		Physical Achmnt.	Financial (in Lakhs)	Physical Achmnt.	Financial (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
West Bengal	Crop Insurance	6.99 lakh Dfts 2450 Beneficiaries covered	6.80	6.73 lakh Dfts. 1,162 Beneficiaries covered	5.07
	Personal Accident	1705 Beneficiaries covered	0.48	1,162 Beneficiaries covered	0.33

1	2	3	4	5	6
Kerala	Crop Insurance	1.00 lakh Dfls 1000 Beneficiaries covered	1.28	0.50 lakh Dfls 500 Beneficiaries covered	0.64
	Rearing Equipment	300 sheds (small)	0.03	200 sheds (big)	0.13
Jharkhand	Crpo Insurance	1.50 lakh Dfls 750 Beneficiaries covered	2.75	—	—

Other States are yet to avail the benefits of the Scheme

(iv) **Creating Toilets, Rest Rooms and Creche facilities for women in Cocoon Markets**: In order to encourage the direct participation of women in cocoon markets, it is envisaged to create separate toilets, rest rooms, exclusively for women in cocoon markets and provide creche facilities for their kids so as to enable them to freely participate in the cocoon transaction. A provision of Rs.62.50 lakh has been made to create 25 such facilities in the cocoon markets during Eleventh Plan. The table below indicates State-wise number of such Units created during the last three years (2007-08 to 2009-10) under the Scheme:

Sl. No.	States 2007-08 to 2009-10	No. of units (lakh Rs.)	Amount released	Remarks
1.	Karnataka	8	15.00	Under construction
2.	Tamil Nadu	4	7.50	Completed
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil from the state	No request received
	GRAND TOTAL	12	22.50	

(v) **Cluster Development Programme**: The Government of India through Central Silk Board has organized 51 sericulture Clusters in 16 States including Andhra Pradesh. All the Schemes of the Government for the development of sericulture are made available to the beneficiaries in identified clusters. Priority is being given to Women Self Help Groups in such cluster development projects.

Fund under TUFS to help textile sector

746. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state: